



COMMITTEE FOR FINANCE AND PERSONNEL

Mr Sammy Wilson MP MLA
Minister of Finance and Personnel
Craigantlet Buildings
Stoney Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SX

20 January 2012

Dear Sammy

NICS Equal Pay Settlement

At its meeting on 18 January, the Committee for Finance and Personnel received a briefing from senior Departmental officials on an on-going court case in respect of an employment issue. In view of the sensitive nature of this issue, the briefing was held in closed session.

Committee members queried whether this case may have consequences for the residual issues arising from the NICS equal pay settlement. Moreover, whilst not binding on courts here, it was noted that the Abdullah vs Birmingham City Council judgement may also have implications.

The Committee understands that a breach of contract case arising from the NICS equal pay settlement has been scheduled to be heard in the County Court at the end of March. The Committee would ask to be kept informed of all developments in this regard. In addition, in order to ensure that informed decisions are made on the way forward, the Committee would reiterate its request for urgent work to be undertaken to estimate the costs of extending the settlement to PSNI civilian staff, NIO secondees and NICS retirees.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K O'Flaherty".

Conor Murphy MP MLA
Chairperson

Conchúr MacMhurchaidh FP CTR
Cathaoirleach